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# Premier in the penalty box

**Selinger deflects  
shots.** Says previously  
undisclosed Jets ticket  
was compensated for  
by making a donation

COLIN  
FAST  
[winnipeg@metronews.ca](mailto:winnipeg@metronews.ca)

A two-and-a-half-year-old scandal about politicians accepting free Jets tickets is back in play, and Premier Greg Selinger is standing at centre ice.

In an interview with radio station CJOB on Wednesday, Selinger acknowledged for the first time that he sat in a box seat for free during a game in 2011.

"Ken Cheveldayoff, a minister in the Saskatchewan government at the time, invited me to attend a Jets game, which occurred on Dec. 29, 2011," Selinger said in a statement released later

**Quoted**

"Whatever information has come to light didn't come from us.... I strongly suspect they (the government) are not a team at all, just a group of individuals willing to throw each other under the bus."

PC opposition leader Brian Pallister, who said the leak of details about the premier's free Jets ticket is another indication of a dysfunctional government

in the day. "He didn't want reimbursement for the ticket but recommended I make a donation instead. On Feb. 7, 2012, I made a donation for \$300 to Friends Housing Inc."

But that's not what Selinger told a legislative committee on May 9, 2012. Under questioning from then-PC leader Hugh McFadyen, he said he purchased any Jets tickets he used directly from the team itself.

After the scandal erupted, Selinger asked all ministers and MLAs to disclose if they had accepted free hockey tickets. Thirteen NDP MLAs came forward, but Selinger

wasn't one of them.

PC opposition leader Brian Pallister said the leak of details about the Premier's free ticket is another indication of a dysfunctional government.

"Whatever information has come to light didn't come from us," he said. "I strongly suspect they (the government) are not a team at all, just a group of individuals willing to throw each other under the bus."

The government ultimately changed its policy to prohibit politicians and government officials from accepting free tickets to sporting events.



PC leader Brian Pallister says details about the premier's free ticket is another indication of a dysfunctional government. COLIN FAST/FOR METRO

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# Selinger 'in survival mode' and fighting for political life

## Revolt in NDP caucus.

Premier is relying on support from former ministers who quit after questioning his party leadership

Premier Greg Selinger is fighting for his political life as he enters a new legislature session Thursday with an open revolt in his NDP caucus, near-record low polling numbers and untested cabinet ministers.

Even to get through the two-week fall sitting, Selinger will be relying on support in the chamber from five former cabinet ministers who recently resigned after questioning his leadership. They remain in caucus but are no longer allowed to attend caucus meetings or have any input.

There appears to have been very little communication between Selinger's team and the rebels, who will still be expected to sit in the chamber at

their assigned times and vote with the NDP majority. They were moved out of the NDP's section on the second floor of the legislature this week and are now in offices in the southeast corner of the building.

Selinger appears to be "in survival mode," said Paul Thomas, professor emeritus of political science at the University of Manitoba.

"Life is not normal, to any extent, on Broadway," he said, referring to the street in front of the legislature.

The opposition Progressive Conservatives plan to put forward a non-confidence motion to try to bring down the government. But it is unlikely to pass, as the former cabinet ministers have said they will vote with the government because their issue is with Selinger and not the party.

The legislature session may see some new labour-friendly initiatives to try to shore up union support for Selinger in the leadership contest, Thomas added.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Premier Greg Selinger will be under pressure from union groups for funding to keep support of the party shored up, says U of M political science professor Paul Thomas. SHANE GIBSON/METRO WINNIPEG

## Mayor Bowman upbeat about throne speech



Mayor Brian Bowman METRO

Mayor Brian Bowman said he's optimistic that Thursday's provincial throne speech will be friendly to Winnipeg.

"I'd like to see the provincial government listening to Winnipeggers," said Bowman after Wednesday's first executive policy committee meeting of the newly elected council.

"Winnipeggers spoke decisively on election day in wanting change, and there's a number of things that I'm hoping for that we'll see if the provincial government is responding (to). I'll have more to say after we hear the throne speech."

Bowman said he's had "very positive discussions"

with Premier Greg Selinger and Minister Kevin Chief, who holds the Winnipeg jobs and the economy portfolio, and believes Chief has a good understanding of what the city's needs are.

"I have been bending his ear; that's my job, is to make sure I'm bending the ear of the provincial government, and

he is the respective minister for Winnipeg," said Bowman, adding he attended Tuesday's Jets game with Chief.

"I didn't make a secret of it during the campaign, (Minister Chief) is somebody that I've known and I've worked with in a volunteer capacity in the past."

BERNICE PONTANILLA/METRO

1 NEWS

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## Back to work. City program for unpaid leave axed

The city's new council should demand answers after senior public-service officials quietly quashed a program that offered staff unpaid time off, said a former councillor.

Paula Havixbeck, who held the Charleswood-Tuxedo seat for four years before making an unsuccessful run for mayor this year, said she had no idea the city's voluntary furlough program was axed when she put forward a motion at the June 19 finance committee meeting.

That motion called on city staff to provide a report on the details of the program, such as which departments were participating and how many days were either approved or denied.

A report prepared for Thursday's finance committee meeting states, "in 2014, the city's senior management team" axed the program because "the public service was finding it increasingly difficult to deliver their services to citizens while supporting employee requests" for unpaid days off.

### Manpower

**"We don't have the staff to be able to offer that type of practice anymore."**

Mike Davidson, president of CUPE Local 500

Havixbeck said giving staff the chance to take unpaid days off is a good way to save cash.

Mike Davidson, president of the city's largest union, CUPE Local 500, said the city's report is evidence of what he's been saying for a long time: that the work is being done by "skeleton crews."

"We don't have the staff to be able to offer that type of practice anymore."

Bowman said Wednesday that it's "worth considering" bringing the voluntary furlough program back.

"I support anything that provides employees with flexibility ... and if you can do it in a way that saves money for taxpayers, then that's a good thing."

BERNICE PONTANILLA/METRO

### Highway collision

## Driver from Henderson crash improves in hospital

Police say the man taken to hospital in critical condition from a black car found wrapped around a hydro pole on Henderson Highway early Wednesday has improved to stable condition.

Patrolling officers came across the single-vehicle accident on Henderson Highway near Jamison Avenue shortly after 4:50 a.m.

The 20-year-old driver was the only occupant of the car.

Police are asking anyone with information about the crash or who may have seen the car travelling in the area to call investigators at 204-986-2861. **METRO**

### Victoria and Naskapi

## Teen flashed in Transcona

This week's wintry weather was apparently not cold enough to stop a man from exposing himself to a teenage girl in Transcona on Tuesday.

The 15-year-old girl was walking west down Victoria Avenue E. near Naskapi Crescent around 4:50 p.m. when a man walked by and flashed her.

The man is in his late 20s to early 30s, 5'7" to 5'10" tall with a medium build and dark tanned skin. He was wearing blue skinny jeans, a red and black lumber jacket, brown shoes, a black tuque and a black scarf around his face at the time.

Anyone with information should call police at 204-986-2857 or Winnipeg CrimeStoppers at 204-786-TIPS. **METRO**



The city's manager of water services, Tim Shanks, told media Wednesday the city will closely monitor frost depth this winter and is ready to roll out a response should water pipes freeze again. SHANE GIBSON/METRO

# City says it's ready for frozen pipes

**Lessons learned.** Experience, more thawing equipment leave city feeling better prepared



SHANE GIBSON  
shane.gibson@metronews.ca

The city says it's learned from last winter's frozen-pipe fiasco, which left hundreds of Winnipeg homes without running water. Winnipeg's manager of water services, Tim Shanks, says the city is ready to roll should extreme temperatures and deep frost threaten to stop water from flowing again this year.

"Last year was unprece-

ented," said Shanks of frost that hit depths of nine feet in some parts of Winnipeg last winter, about a foot-and-a-half below city water lines.

"We're not expecting another extreme weather event but we're better prepared to handle (it)."

As well as refurbishing all three of the city's DBH electrical thawing machines, Shanks said the city's frozen-pipe fight last winter saw three pressure-washer thawing machines purchased, the number of hot-water pulse-jetting thawing machines doubled to four and seven portable electrical thawing machines added to the city's arsenal.

Shanks said this year, crews are monitoring frost depth at spots around the

city, and a response plan is in place should the department determine there's a high risk of water pipes freezing. That plan includes letting homeowners know quickly if they need to leave taps running to prevent a freeze-up.

And should pipes freeze again, the city's manager of engineering services Geoff Patton said the city has also worked to improve their communication strategy, including making sure information goes online quickly and giving better training to staff at 311.

"We've definitely learned that we need to communicate with our customers at all times," he said.

"We're making sure that the most up-to-date information gets out there."

## No kidding. Feds support Winnipeg Comedy Festival

The Harper Conservatives are getting into the funny business.

On Wednesday, Winnipeg South Centre MP Joyce Bateman announced \$100,000 in federal funding for the Winnipeg Comedy Festival over the next two years.

"Our Government is proud to support the 2015 and 2016 editions of the

Winnipeg Comedy Festival," said Bateman in a release. "This investment contributes to Manitoba's comedy industry and gives residents access to great performances right here at home."

The 2015 Winnipeg Comedy Festival runs April 6-12 at the Gas Station Arts Centre.

**METRO**

## Arrive alive. Roadway deaths down, says MPI

The number of road deaths in Manitoba is decreasing and has been for the last 20 years, said Manitoba Public Insurance.

In 2013, 85 people died on public roads, said the insurer. This is down 11.5 per cent from the 96 deaths in 2012 and down 9.6 per cent over the past five years.

"One fatality is too many, and there are real people behind these numbers," said MPI

spokesperson MaryAnn Kempe in a press release. "But these statistics show that Manitoba is moving in right direction with respect to road safety."

2013 marks the lowest number in 20 years, said MPI.

"For the last five years (2009-2013), the fatality rate was 1.1 (per 10,000 drivers) compared to a fatality rate of 1.5 in the five years previous (2004-2008)."

**METRO**

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## Milestone. City hall turns 50, honoured as a historical building

Plenty of local history has been made at city hall over the past 50 years, but now the building itself is being recognized for its heritage status.

A report going to the city's Historical Buildings and Resources Committee on Thursday recommends

the complex at 510 Main St. be added to the city's list of historical resources.

An example of the international style of architecture, city hall was designed by the Winnipeg firm of Green, Blankstein, Russell and Associates.

The building officially opened on Oct. 5, 1964, after decades of debate about how to replace Winnipeg's deteriorating "gingerbread" city hall.

A public referendum and several council votes originally determined it would be built at Broadway and Osborne (where Memorial Park sits now), but Premier Duff Roblin convinced the city to consider other options.

A subsequent report had recommended a site at the corner of Ellice and Balmoral, before council finally decided to build in the current location on Main Street.

COLIN FAST/FOR METRO



Winnipeg City Hall  
BERNICE PONTANILLA/METRO

# Manitoba Liberals release mental health coverage plan



Manitoba Liberal Leader Rana Bokhari unveiled the party's plan to address the province's mental health issues at the Legislative Building Wednesday.

SHANE GIBSON/METRO

## Medicare. Plan would fund psychologists similarly to physicians



SHANE GIBSON

shane.gibson@metronews.ca

Manitoba Liberals want to see people who critically need to see a psychologist covered for the service under Medicare.

Liberal Leader Rana Bokhari released the party's plan to address mental health issues Wednesday, calling it the first pillar of an overall platform for a healthier Manitoba.

"We all know someone who has been affected by mental health issues," she said. "With one in five Canadians, and one in seven children suffering from mental health issues, we cannot afford to remain last among the provinces when it comes to accessing mental health-care specialists."

Under the plan Bokhari

said psychologists across the province would be funded in a similar way to physicians. While Bokhari said she'd like to see everyone in need of psychological services covered eventually, the plan would initially cover priority patients like children, pregnant women and people with depression or PTSD under Medicare.

"It's going to be a few at a time ... and then there'll be an evaluation (to) measure if this is working or not," she explained. "We have to be reasonable in the approach; this is the first time across Canada anyone is doing it and we want to make sure that we're doing it right."

The plan would also see funding for hiring and keeping psychologists in Manitoba increased by \$20 million over four years in an effort to improve the province's patient to psychologist ratio, currently at 20 psychologists for every 100,000 people. The national average is 47 psychologists per 100,000 people.

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## Accountability. NDP ethics critic decries Tory 'secrecy'

The New Democrats are calling on the Conservatives to give the federal information czar the money she needs to do her job as the first step toward fixing a "broken system" of accountability.

In a letter to Treasury Board president Tony Clement, NDP ethics critic Charlie Angus accuses the government of starving the Access to Information system of cash, hiding documents for political reasons and backpedalling on promises to reform the 32-year-old access law.

The letter follows information commissioner Suzanne Legault's recent admission that her office can barely make ends meet — a cash squeeze she says threatens the rights of Canadians. The commissioner serves as an ombudsman for people who request federal records under the Access to Information Act, handling complaints about delays, fees, and

### 'Culture of secrecy'

**"Starving the system of funds amidst a growing Conservative government culture of secrecy appears to be an effective method to deteriorate an individual's right to access information and thereby limit government accountability."**

NDP ethics critic Charlie Angus in a letter to Treasury Board president Tony Clement

problems obtaining documents from federal agencies.

In a recent interview, Clement called the access law "a good piece of legislation" — despite criticism from Legault, pro-democracy groups and opposition MPs that it allows too much information to be kept under wraps. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

## G20 summit. Senior cop's misconduct hearing starts

A senior police officer who ordered the arrests of hundreds during Toronto's G20 summit four years ago had no regard for their conduct or intentions when he issued his sweeping commands, a prosecution lawyer told the officer's disciplinary hearing on Wednesday.

Supt. Dave (Mark) Fenton has pleaded not guilty to a total of five charges of unlawful arrest and discreditable conduct stemming from two "kettling" incidents that occurred over the summit weekend.

The first took place on Saturday, June 26, 2010, hours after a small group of vandals smashed windows and set police cruisers alight. Fenton ordered officers to box in protesters in front of a downtown hotel. More than 260 people were arrested and taken to a makeshift prisoner

processing centre, which came under severe criticism for its deplorable conditions.

The second incident occurred the next day when, six minutes after coming on shift, Fenton ordered police to keep scores of people standing for hours at a downtown intersection despite a severe thunderstorm that left them drenched.

Prosecution lawyer Brendan van Niejenhuis argued that at the heart of the hearing is one "ultimate question" that must be addressed.

"Were the arrests lawful and necessary, and did they constitute conduct that would lower the esteem of the Toronto Police Service in the eyes of the public," he told the hearing taking place at Toronto police headquarters.

**THE CANADIAN PRESS**

### Former Bloc member

#### Mourani joins NDP, but not yet an MP

She may have signed an NDP membership card Wednesday, but former Bloc Québécois MP Maria Mourani will have to be re-elected as a New Democrat in 2015 before she can join the party's caucus. Mourani was cast into the role of an Independent MP after the Bloc kicked her out for criticizing the provincial government's proposed charter of values. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

### Advising space projects

#### Hadfield, Natynczyk named to new space board

Former astronaut Chris Hadfield is among those named by Industry Minister James Moore to a new board that will advise the government on space projects. The board also includes retired general Walt Natynczyk, deputy minister of Veterans Affairs and former president of the Canadian Space Agency. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**



Michael Sona arrives at the Guelph courthouse for his sentencing on Wednesday after being found guilty of election fraud in the so-called robocalls scandal during the 2011 federal election. NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Ex-staffer in robocall scandal gets jail time

## Nine-month sentence.

Michael Sona will be the first person to spend time behind bars for violating Canada Elections Act

Interfering with a citizen's right to vote merits real jail time, an Ontario judge declared Wednesday as he made Michael Sona the first person ever to spend time behind bars for violating the Canada Elections Act.

Sona, the former Conservative staffer convicted in the 2011 robocalls scandal, was sen-

tenced to nine months behind bars and one year's probation for what Justice Gary Hearn called "an affront to the electoral process."

He's the first person convicted of wilfully preventing or endeavouring to prevent an elector from voting under the Canada Elections Act, said Hearn, adding that he believes Sona did not act alone in the scheme, in which some 6,700 automated phone calls were placed the morning of the 2011 federal election with misleading information on how to vote.

Sona was 22 at the time, lacked proper guidance from

more experienced colleagues, and has suffered emotionally in the aftermath, Hearn noted. But jail time was nonetheless warranted in order to send the unmistakable message that messing with the electoral process is a serious crime, he said.

"This was a federal election undertaken to elect representatives who form the governing body in our nation," Hearn told the court. "This was not an amateurish Grade 8 election campaign for student council. Conduct such as that of Mr. Sona is not suitable at any time."

Sona hung his head and

fiddled with his BlackBerry, his family members beside him in tears, as Hearn delivered his fate. Sona's lawyer, Norm Boxall, said his client would be transferred to an unspecified provincial jail. He said a decision has not yet been made whether to file an appeal.

Boxall said Sona would likely consult with another lawyer to determine whether an appeal is appropriate. He could then seek a release from jail pending his appeal. Should he decide not to appeal, he could be eligible to apply for parole after three months, Boxall said.

**THE CANADIAN PRESS**

# Mulcair defends female MPs' silence

## 'Personal misconduct' allegations

### MPs' futures still unclear

Newfoundland MP Scott Andrews says he will run in the next federal election, but whether he will be allowed to run as Liberals depends on the outcome of an investigation that may never happen.

The future is anything but clear for Andrews, his fellow newly Independent MP Massimo Pacetti and the two unidentified female NDP MPs who leveled allegations of "personal misconduct" against them, which sources say were sexual in nature.

**TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

Two female New Democrat MPs alleging misconduct at the hands of two of their Liberal counterparts shouldn't be pushed to lodge formal complaints, no matter how serious their allegations might be, their leader says.

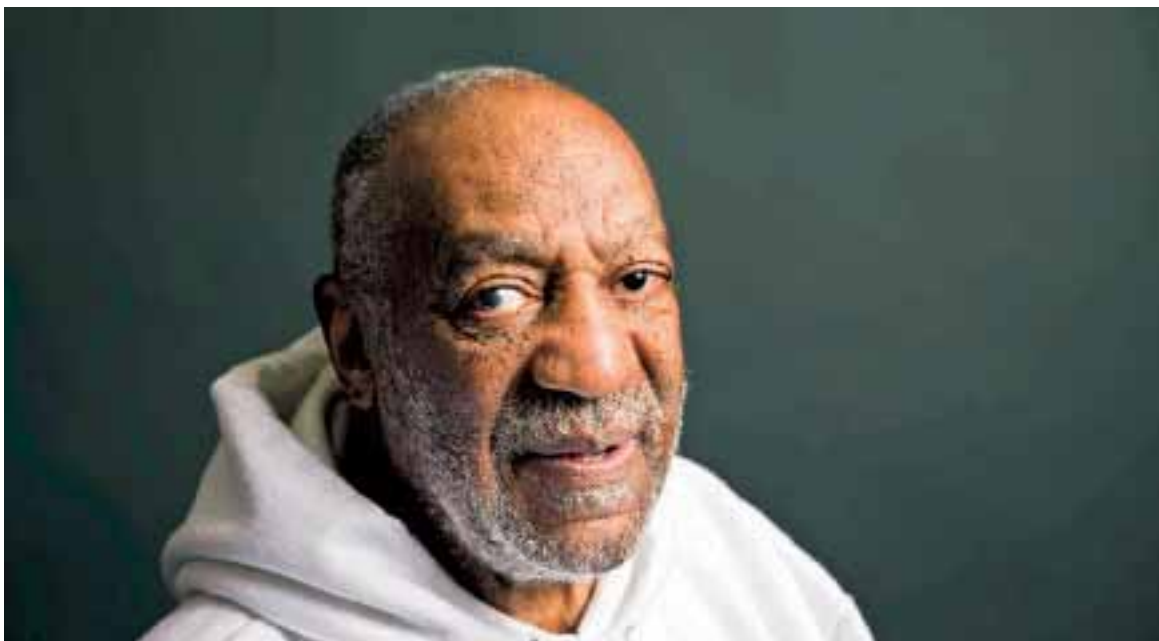
It is up to the two women to decide when and if they want to participate in any sort of investigative process, NDP Leader Tom Mulcair said Wednesday.

Mulcair's continued defence of the women's refusal

to participate came after The Canadian Press revealed that NDP MP Craig Scott, a former law professor, told the Liberals that one of the misconduct incidents — as it was described to him — amounted to an allegation of sexual assault.

Multiple sources say Scott issued that assessment during a behind-the-scenes meeting on Oct. 30 with the Liberal and NDP whips, to which he had accompanied one of the alleged victims.

**THE CANADIAN PRESS**



In this Nov. 18, 2013, file photo, actor-comedian Bill Cosby poses for a portrait in New York. NBC announced Wednesday that it has cancelled plans for a family comedy starring Bill Cosby. VICTORIA WILL/INVISION/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

# NBC says Cosby project is no longer in development

**New assault allegations emerge.**  
Netflix also postponing premiere of new Cosby comedy special

NBC says it has scrapped a Bill Cosby comedy that was under development, the second outlet within a day to put off or abandon a Cosby project after another sexual assault allegation against the comic emerged.

NBC spokeswoman Rebecca Marks said Wednesday the project "is no longer under development," and had no further comment.

Netflix announced late Tuesday that it was postponing the Nov. 27 premiere of

a new Cosby standup comedy special, giving no hint about whether it will ever be aired. Hours earlier in an interview with Entertainment Tonight, actress Janice Dickinson became the third woman in recent weeks to allege she'd been assaulted by Cosby — charges strongly denied by the comedian's lawyer.

Dickinson told Entertainment Tonight that Cosby had given her red wine and a pill when they were together in a Lake Tahoe, Calif., hotel room in 1982. When she woke up the next morning, "I wasn't wearing my pyjamas and I remembered before I passed out I had been sexually assaulted by this man."

Cosby's lawyer, Martin Singer, said in a letter to

The Associated Press that Dickinson's charges were "false and outlandish" and were contradicted by Dickinson herself in a published autobiography. Cosby's spokesman, David Brokaw, has not returned calls for comment.

The spiraling scandal has threatened the 77-year-old comedian's reputation as America's TV dad at a time when he was launching a comeback. He has at least 35 performances scheduled throughout the U.S. and Canada through May of 2015. None of the performances has been cancelled.

At one of the venues, the Sandusky State Theater in Sandusky, Ohio, there's been no negative feedback, said David L. Taylor, the site's executive director.

## Quoted



"I'm doing this because it's the right thing to do and this happened

to me and this is a true story."

Actress and model Janice Dickinson, who on Tuesday became the third woman in recent weeks to allege she'd been assaulted by Cosby

There's been one query from the community about whether the scheduled Jan. 30 performance is still on.

"If the show were to cancel, everybody would obviously get full refunds," Taylor said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Israeli troops destroy attacker's home

The east Jerusalem home of a Palestinian who carried out a deadly attack last month was demolished Wednesday, hours after Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu promised strict security measures in the wake of a grisly synagogue assault.

Tuesday's synagogue attack, which left five people dead, was the deadliest in Jerusalem since 2008 and came amid weeks of violence

linked to the city's holiest site for Jews and Muslims.

The home destroyed in the Silwan neighbourhood near the Old City belonged to Abdel Rahman al-Shaludi, who killed two people last month when he drove his car into a crowd at a light rail stop in Jerusalem.

Israeli troops blasted the interior of the third-floor apartment located

in a four-story apartment building, leaving piles of cinder blocks and holes in the exterior walls. The blast caused minor damage to neighbouring apartments and flattened a car parked below.

In recent weeks, Palestinian attackers using guns, knives and vehicles have killed 11 people — most in Jerusalem, but also in Tel Aviv and the West Bank. At

least five Palestinians involved in the attacks were killed.

On Tuesday two Palestinian cousins wielding meat cleavers, knives and a handgun stormed a synagogue in the west Jerusalem neighbourhood of Har Nof, killing four worshippers and a policeman. The two assailants were shot to death by police.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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## Digging up gifts for Fido

A dog wearing two GoPro cameras, one on its back and one on its chest held on by what is known as a Fetch dog harness, digs into the sand. GoPro Inc.'s Fetch dog harness fits over your dog's chest or back and holds the small, waterproof camera known for attaching to helmets, surfboards, cars and wrists to film rugged adventures. Sony, Garmin and Kurgo also make camera mounts for dogs. The device is part of a legion of gifts that retailers have rounded up for pet wish lists this year. Other hot items for Fido include: ugly sweaters for pets at PetSmart; Petco's line of Star Wars toys and clothing for dogs; and gourmet soup dubbed Winter Warmers Broths by Honest Kitchen.

GOPRO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Canadians not sold on paying with phone

**Report.** Only about 21% of us have made a mobile payment in the past six months, a new poll finds

Hype for mobile payments is growing, but Canadians generally aren't very eager to pay for purchases with their smartphones, suggests a new report.

Canadians are still apprehensive about using their phone in lieu of cash, debit or credit cards, according to a study by global research company GfK, which conducted online surveys with consumers in 17 countries.

Although Canadians have developed a reputation for being keen early adopters of technology, they were found to be among the least interested in mobile payments.

Security fears are a fac-

### Gift cards

While Starbucks customers are frequently seen using their phones to pay for coffees, and Tim Hortons also accepts mobile payments, those apps are linked to gift cards rather than bank accounts and are less of a security concern, notes Stephen Popiel, vice-president of consulting for GfK Canada.

tor, says Stephen Popiel, vice-president of consulting for GfK Canada. Canadians may also be lukewarm on mobile payments since they already have plenty of ways to pay in stores.

"The ATM infrastructure is huge and profound in Canada, even when compared with the United States, so the mobile technology itself is partly a solution for a problem that's not as big of an issue here.

We have a seamless ATM and debit card structure here, and now the tap technology makes it fast and easy to make a lot of small purchases," says Popiel.

"Now we have to train ourselves: don't use the wallet, pull out my phone, make sure the app is open. We have to get to a position where this technology is as seamless and easy to use as what we've been using for the past 15 to 20 years."

GfK estimates only about two per cent of transactions in Canada are currently made with a mobile device, either in store or while online shopping at home.

About 21 per cent of the 1,000 Canadians polled by GfK said they had made a mobile payment in the past six months, compared to 24 per cent of western European respondents, 33 per cent of American respondents and 39 per cent of Latin American respondents.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

### Market Minute



**DOLLAR**  
88.10¢  
(-0.40¢)

Natural gas: \$4.41 US (+\$0.14)  
Dow Jones: 17,685.73 (-2.09)



**TSX**  
14,980.15 (+7.18)



**OIL**  
\$74.58 US (-\$0.03)



**GOLD**  
\$1,193.90 US (-\$3.20)

### Double-double trouble?

## Your Timmies is about to cost more

Tim Hortons plans to raise prices for both coffee and breakfast sandwiches next Wednesday. A cup of coffee will go up by 10 cents, on average. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

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# Crowdfunding a moon mission

It's the moon mission for the masses.

A project to fund a private lunar exploration mission got underway Wednesday, offering the public the chance to take part.

For as little as 10 pounds (\$15 US), Lunar Mission One gives the public a chance to buy space on memory discs that will be buried in a hole drilled into the lunar surface.

The public will be invited to leave music, photos and videos on the disc — helping create a chronicle of the people of Earth. Those offering more funding will leave more data, including DNA in the form of a strand of hair.

### Man on the moon

**"We have carried out research and been quite surprised how keen people are.... School kids think the idea of having a bit of themselves on the moon is fantastic."**

David Iron, who came up with the plan to let the public buy space on memory discs that will be buried in the lunar surface

"Governments are finding it increasingly difficult to fund space exploration that is solely for the advancement of human knowledge and understanding as opposed to commercial return," said British engineer and city financier David Iron, who came up with the plan.

The mission plans to land a spacecraft on the moon in 10 years. It will drill a hole at least 20 metres down but possibly as deep as 100 metres to access lunar rock that is billions of years old.

It will use crowdfunding platform Kickstarter to finance its development phase. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

# Volkswagen recalls Jettas, Beetles

Volkswagen is recalling more than 440,000 Jettas and Beetles to fix a problem that can cause rear suspension failure if the cars aren't fixed properly after a crash.

The recall covers 2011 through 2013 Jettas and 2012 through 2013 Beetles.

VW says in documents posted by U.S. safety regulators on Wednesday that if rear trailing arms are damaged in a crash and not re-

paired correctly, they can fracture suddenly. That can cause loss of control and possibly a crash. Trailing arms connect the axle to the frame.

The company says there have been no crashes or injuries in the U.S., but there were reports of fractured trailing arms mainly in Asian countries.

Dealers will inspect trailing arms for damage and

install sheet metal to help prevent a loss of vehicle control.

The sheet metal will be installed at no cost to customers, but customers will have to pay for repairs if their suspension was damaged, VW said.

Parts currently aren't available, but VW will notify customers to take their cars to dealers for a free inspection. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



## VOICES

# SEX, LIES AND CELEBRITY

Bill Cosby. Jian Ghomeshi. Woody Allen. Famous for being entertainers but now household names for more sinister reasons. With a growing list of women accusing celebrities of sexual assault, are survivors of abuse turning to social media — and the court of public opinion — to get the conviction that may not be found through the courts?

### EMINA GAMULIN

Metro in Toronto

While they probably still whisper among themselves, the people that defend Jian Ghomeshi have largely shut up. The disgraced radio host may never be charged, but in the court of public opinion, the matter is settled.

In this case at least, the collective stance seems to be doing for victims what the criminal courts can't. Innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt is an exceedingly high burden of proof in cases where the legality of the activity boils down to consent, which is almost impossible to "prove" either way.

But while we rightly laud victims who tell their stories publicly, the public-opinion court can also be a fickle one that attacks as much as it defends.

Karlene Moore, a counselor, advocate and activist for the Toronto Rape Crisis Centre, has been working with survivors for more than 20 years. She wouldn't say definitively that the justice system is irrevocably broken but she spoke of how "disheartening" it is.

"I think a lot of survivors and activists are so frustrated in the legal justice system that they have no interest in it at all," Moore said.

She said one difference between the Ghomeshi case and other high-profile ones in the past (like those of Woody Allen and Roman Polanski) is that the allegations being adjudicated in the court of public opinion involve more than just one person.

In addition to Ghomeshi, the federal Liberal party has suspended two MPs after accusations of misconduct from fellow MPs, and Bill Cosby is under attack for horrifying stories that he drugged and raped women. Even feminist du jour Lena Dunham is getting flack online over passages in her recent memoir

that contain disturbing details about her relationship with her sister growing up.

The reality is that these famous figures were not random evildoers; they were dates, friends, family members, coworkers and, in some cases, sexual partners. A question is raised: will the court of public opinion be as generous to women in less high-profile cases?

Moore says that although it's "fantastic" that some survivors are breaking their silence online, "the concerns that we have about disclosure and speaking up online about their experience is that social media can be very isolating."

"What they're getting back is not a uniform, supportive response, and they are getting back surprisingly negative and unsupportive responses from some people in their community."

And of course there will be cases where the public court attacks an innocent person and damage ensues, as was the case with musician Conor Oberst, who was accused in the comments section of the xojane website of raping a woman when she was a star-struck teen. She later took back the story but not before considerable damage was done to his reputation, at least in the short term.

The uncomfortable truth seems to be that while, yes, police and courts can do better for victims, and I do believe, perhaps naively, that we will now do better for the people who bravely open their mouths to tell us things we don't want to believe, justice for victims and punishments for perps will probably never be properly doled out in the real courts. The alternate door of vigilante social-media justice has opened, and there's no turning back.

Let's all keep talking, without waiting for the next horror story to spur the discussion on.

## High-profile entertainers publicly accused of sexual assault:



### BILL COSBY

Former model Janice Dickinson has added her name to more than a dozen women who claim to have been drugged and sexually assaulted by Bill Cosby, citing an alleged incident in 1982. In response, NBC has shelved a planned Bill Cosby comedy, the second outlet to do so.

### JIAN GHOMESHI

At least nine women and one man have come forward to accuse former radio host Jian Ghomeshi of sexual assault or harassment. The CBC fired Ghomeshi as host of its popular program Q last month.

### WOODY ALLEN

Woody Allen's adopted daughter Dylan Farrow published a letter on the New York Times website in early 2014, alleging again that Allen molested her when she was a child. Police had investigated the claim years earlier but said they found no evidence of assault.

### ROMAN POLANSKI

Director Roman Polanski was arrested in 1977 for sexually assaulting a pre-teen model. Even though he pleaded guilty to rape, much of Hollywood came to his defence. Polanski fled to France before being sentenced and has never been extradited.

### LENA DUNHAM

Actress and writer Lena Dunham took to Twitter in outrage after being accused of sexually assaulting her sister as a child. The allegations came after the release of Dunham's memoir, in which she describes looking inside her infant sister's vagina.

### CONOR OBERST

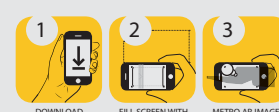
Indie rocker Conor Oberst (of Bright Eyes fame) filed libel charges in 2013 against a North Carolina woman who took to online magazine xojane, accusing him of rape. Joanie Faircloth later recanted, and Oberst eventually dropped his lawsuit.



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# Steve Bell's 25-year Pilgrimage all started in a federal prison

**Box set release.** As he commemorates a long solo career, singer-songwriter reflects on where it all started



**BACKSTAGE PASS**

Jared Story  
winipeg@metronews.ca

In September, Winnipeg singer-songwriter Steve Bell released *Pilgrimage*, a four-disc box set celebrating his 25-year solo music career.

Bell's own pilgrimage started in the unlikelyst of places: prison.

No, the Christian folk musician is not an ex-con. His father Alf was a federal penitentiary prison chaplain, first in Drumheller, Alta., and then in Stony Mountain Institution, and young Steve's first guitar instructors were inmates.

"When you're eight years old and you get to go into a federal prison, that's kind of a cool thing, but the disappointing thing is the people inside turn out to be quite normal-looking human beings," says Bell, 54.

"Because of the movies, you're expecting knuckle-dragging monsters and then you just see real people with real lives, hopes and disappointments, like the rest of us."

"There were quite a few musicians in prison that saw something in me and invested in me and I learned to play guitar from federal prison inmates. Really high-flying, chick-



Winnipeg singer-songwriter Steve Bell commemorated his 25-year solo music career with a four-disc box set titled *Pilgrimage*. CONTRIBUTED

en picking, Chet Atkins kind of stuff, and when you mix that with my mother's musicality, which is around hymns and classics, and then my own youthful love of rock 'n' roll, it all came together to form a style that ends up being mine."

*Pilgrimage* contains a new studio album, also titled *Pilgrimage*, a selection of fan-chosen unplugged recordings (*Unadorned*), a collection of Bell compositions recorded by his colleagues (*Good Company*) and a selection of his songs sans vocals (*Landscapes*).

The four-disc set was funded

by a Kickstarter campaign. As an independent Prairie-based Christian artist, or as he puts it "a niche within a niche market," Bell says his career has been made possible by the generosity of others.

"I'm certainly not a self-made man by any stretch," Bell says.

"That's the thing about independent artists: The ones that survive are the ones who learn to make it a community-based event. The sad thing that happened when music became a commodity that could be marketed and sold

## Quoted

**"That's the thing about independent artists: The ones that survive are the ones who learn to make it a community-based event."** Singer-songwriter Steve Bell

for great profit is that musicians stopped seeing themselves as community-based and they started seeing themselves as unique geniuses that put out very narcissistic, self-serving material.

"As much as I lament the collapse of the music industry, what happens now is

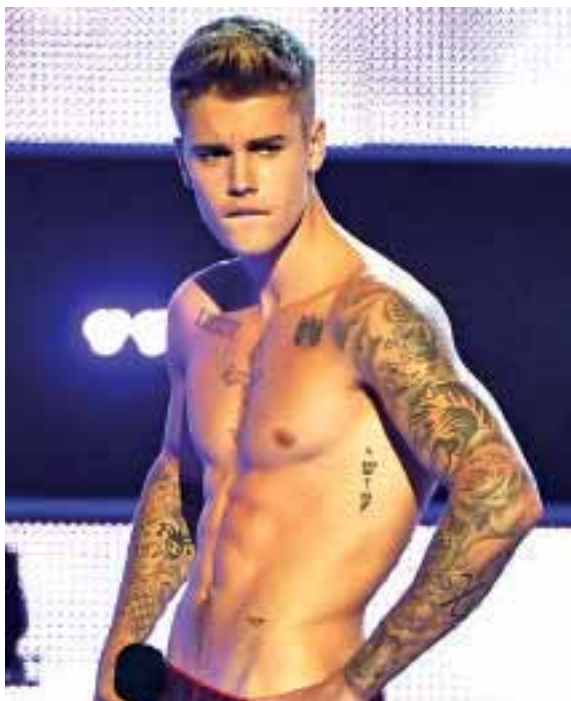
musicians are forced to serve the community again, which is how it should have been all along."

Steve Bell plays on Sunday at Grant Memorial Baptist Church (877 Wilkes Ave.). Tickets are \$20 at the church office, [stevebell.com](http://stevebell.com) or by calling 1-800-854-3499. Showtime is 7 p.m.

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Justin Bieber

## Bieber bans the bong, breaks out the Bible

**NED EHRBAR**  
Metro in Hollywood

We may be about to enter the “brainwashed into a creepy cult” phase of Justin Bieber’s career — which, honestly, I didn’t think was going to arrive at least until he turned 23. Canada’s goodwill ambassador has reportedly been devoting his time to celebrity pastor Carl Lentz of Hillsong Church. And by “devoting,” I mean he “exiled himself from friends, alcohol,

weed and everything else that doesn’t involve the good Lord” for two weeks at Lentz’s Rancho Mirage compound near Palm Springs, at least according to TMZ. Hillsong, by the way, allegedly practises tithing, requiring members to donate 10 per cent of their income to the church. Not that I wish ill on the kid, but I’d rather the hard-partying pop star with a Napoleon complex not go all Kirk Cameron on us. Come back to the bong, Bieber. All will be forgiven.

### Twitter



@BetteMidler

The Pope is raffling off his unwanted Papal gifts for charity. What?! He told me he loved that Brookstone neck massager I got him!



@ConanOBrien

A 10-second kiss can transfer 80 million bacteria, my wife told me as we shook hands.



@pattonoswalt

You were the first reason I wanted to do comedy. I’ll always marvel at your genius onstage. But here’s where we say goodbye, Bill Cosby.



Kim Kardashian and Kanye West

## That other Kim cover that didn’t break the Internet

Remember when Kim Kardashian and Kanye West were on the cover of Vogue earlier this year, and it didn’t really do much for sales? Anna Win-tour, as it turns out, is and was

a bit conflicted about the whole thing. “Now and again one has to do things like that,” she told CNN’s Alina Cho during a chat at the Metropolitan Museum of Art recently. “I think if we just remain deeply tasteful and just put deeply tasteful people on the cover, it would be a rather boring magazine. Nobody would talk about us.” But Anna, shouldn’t you also be concerned with what it is they’re saying about you?



# METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES



Chris Hemsworth ALL PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

## Does the Sexiest Man Alive have to do housework?

Chris Hemsworth is officially People magazine’s new Sexiest Man Alive, and unfortunately it looks like the Thor star plans on using his newfound powers for evil, not good. “I’ll put it on the mantelpiece just to remind (my wife) in the coming years,” he tells the magazine about how he plans to

use the accolade. “I can just say to her, ‘Now remember, this is what the people think, so I don’t need to do the dishes anymore, I don’t need to change (diapers). I’m above that. I’ve made it now.’” I’d rethink that strategy if I were you, buddy.

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# We've got mad love for this Flower girl's beauty biz

**Style.** Drew Barrymore chats with Metro about her new fragrances, insecurity and living in the light

JANINE  
FALCON

Metro News in Toronto

"I've been in the makeup chair since I was six years old," Drew Barrymore likes to say. Actor, producer, cosmetics maven, wife and mother of two little girls, right now she's focused on promoting her two-year-old brand, Flower Beauty (the name is a nod to her production company Flower Films) in Canada.

## On Flower's new fragrance collection

"We thought a lot about who this woman was that we're trying to create a fragrance for. Mothers with their kids, women in the workplace, date night — we started to fall in love with this woman and get excited by her because she felt like us.

We're trying to be good to our kids, do something that we can be proud of in our jobs, and go home to get back into that romance with our husbands. So that's Cherished, Radiant and Sultry, a fragrance for every mood and the story of what women are doing out in the world."

## On her three favourite Flower makeup products

"Every day is different be-



Drew Barrymore's Flower Beauty line is available exclusively at Walmart Canada. GEORGE PIMENTEL

cause all I do is test and use the products. Today I'll say Mauve Over Lip Suede (\$7.98), our rose-coloured lip crayon. It's matte, but so creamy and buildable, and it never feathers or cracks or gets cakey. I

don't go anywhere without our Skincognito Foundation Stick (\$8.98). It's really just a big fat creamy concealer stick, and it covers stuff so well without looking heavy. And our Zoom-In Ultimate

Mascara (\$7.98). It's so good with its adjustable three-way brush."

## On balancing a multi-faceted career with family

"I'm sure most women

## Drew's with you

"I'm very tuned into what women go through in their daily lives, how they feel inside, what positive messaging is."

Drew Barrymore  
Actress and entrepreneur

feel guilty, like there's never enough, especially with motherhood — it's so weighty. I apply a very narrow focus: I wouldn't be able to direct and act and do the cosmetics company and have little side projects ... things had to fall off when I had kids. That's the only way I'm able to be a mother first and foremost. My kids deserve the 24/7 energy of me."

## On playing a role in the way a woman looks at herself

"I'm so happy to be there because I've done the mental gymnastics my whole life. I'm very tuned into what women go through in their daily lives, how they feel inside, what positive messaging is. Insecurity is not an option. There are things out there that can really be uplifting; you go toward them. That's a big part of how I want to raise my daughters. Live by example and go to the light. It's not all going to be easy — you're going to be torn by the heavy stuff in life. All the more reason to have that light within."

## Canadian street style

Spotted in: Toronto

Name: Bukola

Age: 20

Occupation: Student

## What she's wearing

Browns shoes, Zara pants, vintage shirt, Forever21 hat

and vest

## Her inspiration

"I'm guilty ... but Kylie and Kendall Jenner, I love to see what they post on their Instagram."

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## Trends Report

As the weather gets nip-pier, I've been spotting people in my city wearing onesies (sometimes in elaborate animal form) as street fashion. Go online to Trends Report and tell me what you think. Should grown-ups be wearing animal onesies in public or should they stay in the bedroom?

• Online: [metronews.ca/trends-report](http://metronews.ca/trends-report)

• Follow Irene on Twitter @MetrolreneK and Instagram @kuanirene



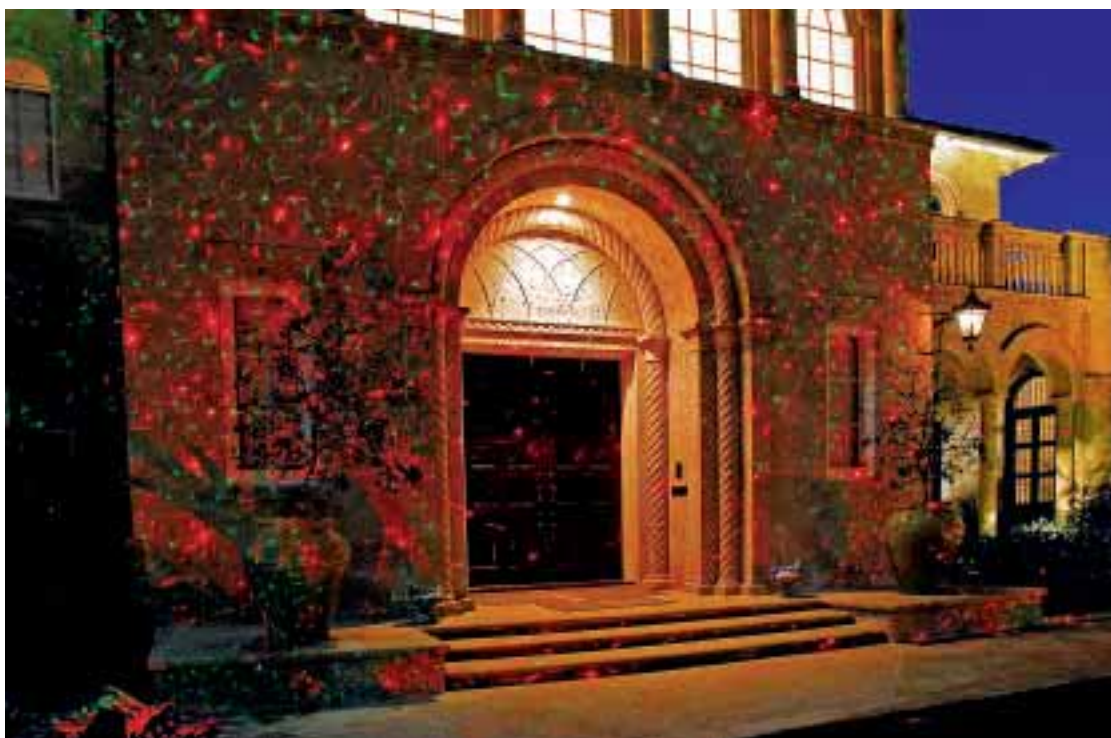
• Photo boohoo.com



# What a bright time, it's the lights time

Thanks to advances in lighting technology, you have a lot to choose from when it comes to creative ways to deck your halls for the holidays this year. Forget about white incandescent lights and animatronic reindeer. Think lasers. Think smartphones. And hundreds, if not millions, of colour choices

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Looking for something unique in holiday lighting? Projected laser lights use small spotlights to project thousands of tiny pinpoints of red, green, or blue and green lights onto your home. PINNACLE LIGHTING GROUP/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Projected laser lights float in air

Using small spotlights, this technology projects thousands of tiny pinpoints of red, green, or blue and green lights onto your home or any other hard surface. California-based BlissLights offers them

for \$179 or \$199 US each, depending on whether the lights are in motion.

To a passerby, "at first glance, they look like traditional holiday rope lights, but actually they float freely across the house's exterior, plants and more

to create a display that neighbours will think took hours to design and hang," BlissLights spokeswoman Natalia Barclay says.

There are no cords or wires involved with the laser lights, says Nick Burks of Atlanta-based Pinnacle Lighting Group.

"For people who live in the northern part of the country, it's extremely helpful when you have to take them down and it's zero degrees outside," he says. "Instead of taking a string of lights down in January, just unplug the fixture and put it in a box and you're done."

## Battery powered lights sparkle on

This technology has been around a while but was mostly limited to smaller, incandescent light strands that you'd put in a window box or small porch display.

Now they come in LED strands up to 30 feet long with batteries that are much more powerful and longer-lasting. Many feature auto-timers and buttons that control blinking and other patterns.

At online retailer Lights.com, you can connect up to six strands of battery-powered lights for a total of 600 LED lights on one battery pack, spokeswoman Aimee Majoros says.

You know what that means? One-hundred-and-eighty feet of energy-saving holiday sparkle.



This Joy sign will light up a tabletop or mantelpiece with a rustic, yet festive, vibe. Vintage elements are a popular decor trend this holiday. HOMEGOODS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## RGB lights of many colours

Single light bulbs that hold three LEDs — red, green and blue — are the secret behind a new category of holiday lights that offer up to 16 million colour combinations.

Known as RGB lights, they can be dialed up or down in a variety of ways via a smartphone app. And because their colour range is so varied, they can be kept up year-round and used for any number

of holidays — Halloween, Easter, you name it.

Lumenplay offers the most colours by far at more than 16 million. The exotic lighting system doesn't come cheap (\$79.99 US for a starter pack) and is only available in 10-foot strands. But you can string as many as 500 lights together on one controller, which comes with the starter pack.

GE also offers RGB lighting technology with its new iTwinkle light sets and pre-lit Christmas trees, while Texas-based decorating firm Christmas Decor is offering the lights as an option for holiday customers this year.

Each iTwinkle G35 bulb holds three LEDs — red, green and blue — that can be combined to create thousands of colour choices.

GE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



## Smart lights and lighting systems

All the talk of RGB technology leads right into another holiday lighting trend this year — "smart" lights or lighting systems controlled by your smartphone.

- Both the Lumenplay and iTwinkle systems are operated via apps available for Apple and Android phones. With just a swipe of your screen, you can dim or brighten outdoor lights, set them to music, or choose new colours and patterns.

- With iTwinkle, you can even record a greeting to play, like Happy Holidays or Merry Christmas, spokeswoman Amanda Hayes says.

- Most of these apps have a range of up to 150 feet, meaning you can control the action from across the yard or while plopped on your couch watching It's A Wonderful Life (or the Griswolds in National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation) for the 10th time.

- "No longer do you have to venture outside to plug in your lights," says Dave Geraci with Ohio-based Technical Consumer Products.

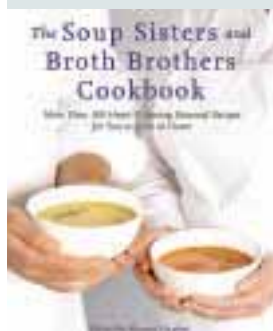
- TCP recently unveiled a smart home lighting system known as Connected by TCP, which links to a home's Wi-Fi or mobile network and is controlled via smartphone, computer or a special remote.



# Soups to warm the heart as much as belly

## Cookbook of the Week

Get your bowl ready for deliciousness



Celebrity chefs and “souper” volunteers contribute more than 100 recipes to The Soup Sisters and Broth Brothers Cookbook.

Arranged by season, the recipes include vegetarian, vegan and gluten-free options, so you can prepare and share soup throughout the year. Among the recipes are Sweet Potato and Chipotle Soup, Southwestern Black Bean Soup, Rapini Soup and more.

Soup Sisters is a non-profit enterprise that organizes volunteer soup-making events across Canada. **METRO**

**Soup Week.** This Hot and Sour Chicken Soup has a good kick of spice

“Feel free to improvise with your favourite vegetables — carrots cut in julienne strips or cremini mushrooms (baby portobellos) make excellent additions,” writes Lesley Stowe, owner of Lesley Stowe Foods, who contributed this recipe to The Soup Sisters and Broth Brothers Cookbook.

1. In a medium pot, combine the stock and chicken breasts. Bring to a boil.

2. Reduce the heat and simmer, uncovered, for 10 minutes.

3. Remove the pot from the heat. Let stand, covered, for 10 minutes.

4. Remove the breasts from the pot, reserving the stock. When cool enough to handle, shred the chicken, keeping the pieces a fairly good size. Set aside.

5. Strain the stock through a fine-mesh sieve into a clean pot. Add the leeks, ginger, black vinegar, cider vinegar and pepper. Bring to a boil.

6. Reduce the heat and sim-

## Ingredients

- 8 cups (2 l) chicken stock
- 2 large boneless, skinless chicken breasts
- 1 cup (250 ml) thinly sliced leeks (white parts only)
- 2 tbsp (30 ml) minced fresh ginger
- 5 tbsp (75 ml) Chinese black vinegar or Worcestershire sauce
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) apple cider vinegar
- 1/2 tsp (2 ml) pepper
- 2 small baby bok choy, sliced
- 3 to 4 fresh radishes, thinly sliced
- 2 tsp (10 ml) sesame oil
- 1/4 cup (60 ml) cilantro leaves
- Thinly sliced red chillies to taste

mer, uncovered, until the leeks are tender, about 15 minutes.

7. Add the bok choy and radishes. Allow to simmer for 5 minutes. Add the shredded chicken and sesame oil.

8. Ladle up steaming bowlfuls and scatter each portion with cilantro leaves and chillies (if using) to taste. **EXCERPTED FROM THE SOUP SISTERS AND BROTH BROTHERS COOKBOOK. COPYRIGHT © 2014 SHARON HAPTON. PUBLISHED BY APPETITE BY RANDOM HOUSE, WHICH IS A DIVISION OF PENGUIN RANDOM HOUSE CANADA. REPRODUCED BY ARRANGEMENT WITH THE PUBLISHER. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.**



This recipe serves six. JULIE VAN ROSENDAAL

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## Potato-Cheddar Soup

1. In a heavy-bottomed pot, melt the butter over medium heat. Add the potatoes, carrots, celery, onion, leek, and salt and pepper to taste. Cook, stirring often, until the vegetables are beginning to brown and the onion has softened.

2. Add stock and bring to a boil over high heat. Reduce heat and simmer, covered, until the vegetables are tender, 20 minutes.

3. Purée half of the soup until smooth. Add the puréed soup back to the pot. Stir in the cream. Reheat gently.

4. Remove the pot from the

heat. Stir in the cheese and dill and season with salt and pepper to taste. Ladle up bowlfuls.

## Ingredients

- 1/4 cup (60 ml) butter
- 2 lb (1 kg) russet potatoes, peeled and diced
- 2 carrots, peeled and diced
- 2 stalks celery, diced
- 1 large onion, finely chopped
- 1 leek (white part only), diced
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 4 cups (1 l) chicken stock
- 1 cup (250 ml) whipping cream
- 1 cup (250 ml) shredded cheddar cheese
- 3 tbsp (45 ml) chopped dill

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Kris Abel  
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Thursday, November 20, 2014

# Head for the mountains

**TOM MASON**  
For Metro

For serious snowmobilers, there is gold in distant hills — metaphorical gold at least.

More and more snowmobilers are giving up level ground and heading for the fresh air and soft snow in the mountains — and they are looking for the kind of equipment that can get them there safely.

Trent Fleming, with Martin Motor Sports in Edmonton, says there is one trend that's prevalent in new snowmobiles this year — longer tracks.

"We've got a new model

with a 174-inch track that's very popular. That's a really long mountain track, longer than anything we've seen before."

The length of the track is designed to give the sled more climbing power on big hills, but has another purpose as well, Fleming said. Like powder skis or a fat snowboard, it's designed to glide smoothly over the soft powder snow that collects in higher ground.

"It gives the machine a lot more floatation in soft snow so it's more forgiving in the hills," he said. "I like to call it the snowshoe effect."

The setup works because of

a number of technological innovations. For one thing, the tunnel on the sled pivots fully to accommodate the longer track. It's also reinforced to give it more strength-to-length ratio.

Because snowmobiles are

designed to cool themselves by flipping snow onto their radiators, mountain sleds require deeper snow to operate than a field sled.

Fleming said the new mountain snowmobiles are so popular that most of the

buyers who are picking them up now put money down on them in March, just to be sure they would have them when the season opened.

Colour is the other big trend Fleming has been seeing this year, as snowmobile

buyers look for ways of making their sleds stand out from the crowd.

"The manufacturers are getting crazy with their oranges and greens," Fleming said. "A lot of the time it looks like a crayon box exploded."

More and more snowmobilers are giving up level ground and heading for the fresh air and soft snow in the mountains. SHUTTERSTOCK



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## Buying a sled. Do your homework, ask an expert

**TOM MASON**  
For Metro

There aren't many winter activities that bring families together like snowmobiling. The sport is big business in Canada, an industry that generates approximately \$8 billion annually.

Currently, Canada has around 594,000 registered snowmobiles, with the typical sled travelling around 2,600 kilometres per year. That's a lot of riding.

For people thinking about getting into snowmobiling, the first steps can be confusing. But doing your homework and talking to a knowledgeable expert can help.

"The first thing you need to do is take a hard look at where you're going to be riding," said Rick Lenglet, with Echo Cycle in Edmonton. "If you're going to ride low, on flatter terrain, you're going to want to ride a shorter track. If you plan to take your sled into the mountains, you need something with a longer track, something that's going to stay up in the softer snow."

Like everything else, there



Canada has around 594,000 registered snowmobiles, with the typical sled travelling around 2,600 kilometres per year. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

are trade-offs when it comes to snowmobiles. A long track model may glide over soft powder and climb easily over steep terrain, but the long aluminium tunnel has less strength.

It also takes deeper snow to cool the engine. A snowmobile cooling system uses the track to flip snow up over the radiator to cool off the engine. The longer the track, the more snow is needed to keep things cool.

Lenglet says mountain snowmobiles are usually designed to be one-person sleds, while a field "ditch jumper"

can carry two riders.

A third alternative, usually called a crossover sled, combines many of the elements of both mountain and field sleds.

"Long mountain sleds are geared for climbing," he said. "Shorter sleds are geared for speed."

Lenglet said another popular alternative with buyers is to customize a snowmobile to fit your needs.

"Pretty much anything you can do in the auto industry you can do with a sled," Lenglet said. "You can customize it, modify, make it go faster. Anything you want."



# 7 snowmobile safety tips

Snowmobiles are being used for both work and play, depending on where you live. In rural areas that receive large amounts of snow, for example, snowmobiles are often relied upon for day-to-day transportation — and of course, they are also used for fun.

Be aware, however, that a snowmobile is a powerful machine and if you don't take care while riding it, you could cause serious injury to yourself or others.

Treat it like operating any other vehicle, observers say.

"And make sure you have the snowmobile insured," said Wayne Ross, an insurance expert with Aviva Canada. "Just like coverage on a car, snowmobile insurance is mandatory by law in Canada."

The following safety tips are worth reviewing no matter whether you have never been on a snowmobile before, or if you are a seasoned rider:

**1 Know the law:** Make sure you are aware of the laws regarding snowmobile use.



A snowmobile is a powerful machine and if you don't take care while riding it, you could cause serious injury to yourself or others. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Make sure your registration and insurance papers are in order before riding.

**2 Inspect before riding:** Always inspect your machine before you ride. Check the engine, the oil, and make sure you have enough gas to reach your destination. Make sure everything is in working order, and make sure

you have an emergency kit. Emergency kits are not only handy if you need to make a quick repair, they can be a life saver.

**3 Be aware of your surroundings:** Driving a snowmobile safely requires concentration. Always focus on the path ahead and your surroundings. All it takes is to

be distracted for a second and you could crash.

**4 Don't drink and drive:** Drinking and operating a snowmobile has the same repercussions as if you were to drink and drive in a car. Never drink and operate any form of vehicle.

**5 Take lessons:** Driving a snowmobile is not as easy as it looks. If you have never driven a snowmobile before or if you have not been on one for an extended period of time, consider taking a lesson or two to brush up on your skills and knowledge.

**6 Dress for the weather conditions:** Make sure you wear the appropriate clothing for the weather conditions. Remember that you will be exposed to the elements at all times and you need to properly protect your body from the cold.

**7 Tell people where you are going:** Always tell another person where you plan on riding before departing. This way, if you don't come back as scheduled, they will know where to start looking.

NEWS CANADA



Make sure you have the appropriate clothing on for the weather conditions when going out on a snowmobile. SHUTTERSTOCK



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# Jets keeping Paul Maurice happy

**'Lots of good.'** Coach glad defence found its way but says there is room for improvement

With almost a quarter of the season in his rear-view mirror, Winnipeg Jets coach Paul Maurice is pleased with the team's progress but would still mark its report card "needs improvement."

"We've got the very early stages of a good foundation and a good understanding of the things we can do on a nightly basis, things we can replicate," he said Wednesday, a day after the Jets' 3-1 home win over the New Jersey Devils.

"There's lots of good in our game. There are things I really believe we can get better at, just through repetition more than anything else, so we're right where we could be."

The Jets (10-7-3) woke up Wednesday in third place in the Central Division — good enough for a playoff spot if the season were over, but of course it's a long way from being over.

Maurice says he's taking a similarly long-term view of the team's progress.

"We're early stages in a bunch of things. How we generate offence and how we generate defence and still be a good reliable hockey team. There are lots of areas of our game that I think will get better, I'm just not sure we can get better in a week or two."

The team has started to develop its identity as a defence-first organization, for example.



Paul Maurice smiles during a game in this file photo. The Jets' coach is happy that his team is 'where we could be.'

MARIANNE HEIM/GETTY IMAGES

"For our defensive play that we have some confidence (in) now, it's done over months and years really, until the thought process becomes an instinct."

Defenceman Mark Stuart says those things are taking hold as the entire team focuses on tight, positional defensive play that cuts down chances for their opponents and makes it hard to get over Winnipeg's blue-line.

"As a defencemen you can only be aggressive if the forwards are in the right spot," he says. "For the most part we've had that. It's still a process

though, and we're still learning, we're still getting better."

The Jets also take a lot of penalties but they have one of the better records killing them in the league. The Jets have an NHL-high 277 penalty minutes, although Pittsburgh edges them out in minutes per game, but the Jets have only given up five goals and have scored two of their own short-handed.

Maurice says they're working on reducing stick infractions.

"Some of the others are just a by-product of 'compete,' so I'm not worried about that,"

he said.

He has no problem with what he refers to as the "compete level" the team brings to every game.

Their power play also currently ranks second last in the NHL and the Jets want that to change, but even there the coach sees some reason for optimism.

"For us, our shot attempts, we're over 200 on our power plays. Just slightly over 50 per cent are actually getting to the net. We're getting an awful lot blocked. So how we're getting to the net has got to change a little bit."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## \$1B settlement

### Players' lawyer: NFL may turn to 'scorched earth'

If the NFL's estimated \$1-billion settlement of concussion claims isn't approved, the league will pursue "scorched-earth litigation," a lead lawyer for former players said Wednesday.

Christopher Seeger's arguments opened a daylong "fairness hearing" on the plan in federal court in Philadelphia. The deal would settle thousands of lawsuits that accuse the NFL of hiding what it knew about concussions to rush players back on the field.

"It would have been an expensive, scorched-earth litigation (without a settlement). We know that because of other parties that have litigated with the NFL," Seeger said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## First openly gay player

### Jason Collins to retire from NBA

Jason Collins, the first openly gay man to play in one of the four major North American professional leagues, announced his retirement Wednesday after 13 years in the NBA.

The 35-year-old Collins disclosed his plans in a first-person story for Sports Illustrated. It's the same forum he used in April 2013 to publicly reveal his sexuality.

"It feels wonderful to have been part of these milestones for sports and for gay rights and to have been embraced by the public, the coaches, the players, the league and history," Collins wrote.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Winnipeg still missing a superstar player



THE HOCKEY NEWS  
Ronnie Shuker  
winnipeg@metronews.ca

General manager Kevin Cheveldayoff deserves praise for his patience with this roster. He has put together a fine core that appears to be coming together, despite some recent struggles.

Still, there's one very big piece missing. And if Cheveldayoff doesn't deal for it in a trade, acquire it via

free agency or get it through the draft, the Jets will never survive the NHL's Division of Death.

Every team in the Central has at least one established superstar or a player well on his way to superstardom. Winnipeg has none.

Chicago has Jonathan Toews and Patrick Kane. Colorado has Nathan MacKinnon. Dallas has Tyler Seguin and Jamie Benn. Minnesota has Ryan Suter and Zach Parise. Nashville has Shea Weber and Seth Jones. St. Louis has

Vladimir Tarasenko.

The closest thing the Jets have is Evander Kane, possibly Jacob Trouba or Mark Scheifele. But if Kane continues to fall far short of superstar status — which looks more and more likely every season — and Trouba and Scheifele end up being just good players, then at some point Cheveldayoff will have to be bold and go get one.

The traditional way to do that is through the draft, which is Cheveldayoff's style. But the Jets are too good now

to get a high pick, unless they miss the playoffs and miraculously win the draft lottery.

The troubles Winnipeg has had luring high-profile players to the city are well known, so free agency is out as well. Which leaves the trade route as the only way the Jets are ever going to land a superstar.

It can be done. Just ask Dallas GM Jim Nill, who stole Seguin from Boston two summers ago. San Jose did it in 2005, robbing the Bruins of Joe Thornton, as did Toronto, who pinched Phil Kessel from

— you guessed it — the B's in 2009. (What the heck is with Boston giving up on superstars so young anyway?)

It's a high-risk proposition, no doubt, and Cheveldayoff isn't known as a GM willing to take risks, especially ones that big.

But as good as Kane and possibly Trouba and Scheifele could be, what the Jets really need is greatness. Whether it's this season, the off-season or next season, it's up to Cheveldayoff to go and get it. Perhaps he should call the Bruins.



## AUGMENTED REALITY

**Stuck on 12 Across?**  
**Scan this image with your Metro News app for today's crossword and Sudoku answers. It's OK. No one's watching.**

→ See the full instructions on Metro's Voices page.



### Horoscopes by Sally Brompton

#### ♈ Aries

**March 21 - April 20**

There is nothing to be gained and a great deal to be lost if you act purely on emotion. It will pay you to wait a day or two before deciding what to do about a relationship.

#### ♉ Taurus

**April 21 - May 21**

Concentrate on what you are good at and ignore everything else. You may find that difficult as the planets seem determined to disrupt your routine.

#### ♊ Gemini

**May 22 - June 21**

Ignore those who urge you to take a more "balanced" approach. If you want something enough you must go out and get it.

#### ♋ Cancer

**June 22 - July 23**

A little of what you fancy will do you good today, but don't go overboard and consume too much or you could make yourself sick.

#### ♌ Leo

**July 24 - Aug. 23**

No matter how difficult it has been resolving a dispute, today's cosmic picture will help you find the compromise. You may have to give a little more than you expected.

#### ♍ Virgo

**Aug. 24 - Sept. 23**

Pretend you have faith in someone's abilities, even if you doubt they are up to the job. If you say the wrong thing now you may destroy their confidence completely.

#### ♎ Libra

**Sept. 24 - Oct. 23**

Affairs of the heart are vital but as relationship planet Venus squares up to Neptune, planet of illusion, you are advised not to take them seriously.

#### ♏ Scorpio

**Oct. 24 - Nov. 22**

Some situations call for subtlety, some call for assertiveness, but whatever circumstances you face over the next 24 hours you'll come up smelling of roses.

#### ♐ Sagittarius

**Nov. 23 - Dec. 21**

It appears someone's grabbed your attention but don't give them the impression you are desperate. If you do all the chasing at the beginning it will be the pattern for the future.

#### ♑ Capricorn

**Dec. 22 - Jan. 20**

What you do today is maybe not so important, but how you do it is. Throw yourself in 100 per cent. Your passion will do your reputation no harm at all.

#### ♒ Aquarius

**Jan. 21 - Feb. 19**

Caution is needed today when dealing with employers. But that does not mean you have to put up and shut up. Be subtle in your criticisms.

#### ♓ Pisces

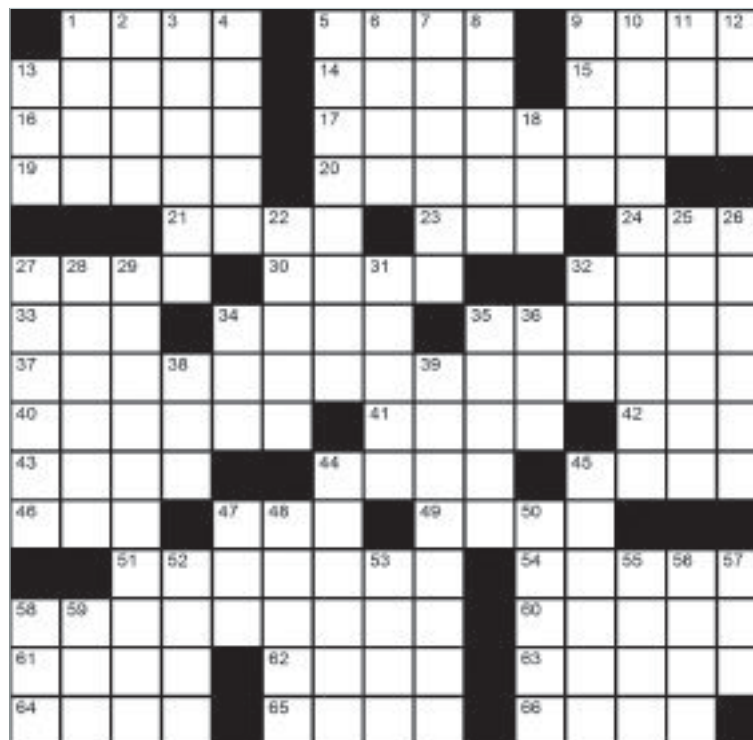
**Feb. 20 - March 20**

It may at times seem as if you are the only one who thinks logically but something will convince you today that you are not alone. Others share your values and opinions.

### Crossword: Canada Across and Down by Kelly Ann Buchanan

#### Across

1. Not his
5. Boring
9. Cracked a bit
13. Break a Commandment
14. Latvia's capital
15. Thespian's request
16. \_\_\_ in Wonderland
17. Outdoor skating spot in Halifax: 2 wds.
19. Contradict
20. Creature like #58-Across
21. Bus. bigwig
23. Lettered drug
24. Tic-\_\_\_Toe
27. Garden waterer
30. \_\_\_ poker
32. Fun time
33. \_\_\_ & Dec ("Britain's Got Talent" hosts)
34. Process part
35. Ancient Olympic deity
37. Moraine and Peyto in Banff National Park = \_\_\_-\_\_\_
40. Lowest amts.
41. Grannies: German
42. 'Hero' suffix
43. Supersonic interceptor aircraft developed-then-halted in Canada in the 1950s, \_\_\_ Arrow
44. Thurs. followers
45. "Meet Me \_\_\_" (Louis) (1944)
46. Prefix with 'classical'
47. Montreal Mrs.
49. Hockey: \_\_\_ pads



51. Quebec singer Mitsou's surname
54. Icelandic singer
58. "Star Wars" (1977) character
60. TV show: French
61. Had on
62. "Is it just \_\_\_"
63. Story, in a house, in French

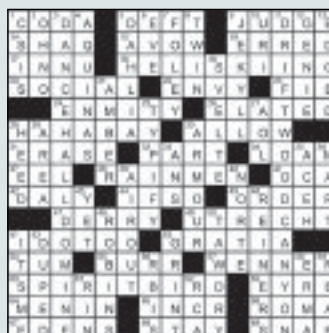
64. "\_\_\_ Congeniality" (2000)
  65. "\_\_\_" ('60s espionage series)
  66. Zilches#
- Down**
1. Mittens-mending reason
  2. Malefic
  3. Cook's secret

4. Ranch animal
5. '80s sitcom, "Punky"
6. Red carpet auto
7. From times-of-yore
8. Hears the herald angels!
9. Skincare stuff
10. Bee Gees '75 hit:

- 2 wds.
11. Ms. Gasteyer
12. Faith [abbr.]
13. Hailed ride
18. Care
22. "Melrose Place" star Rob
25. Canadian apple juice brand
26. Broom \_\_\_

27. J.R. Ewing portrayed by Larry
28. TV: Happening now, not taped: 2 wds.
29. Hamilton folk singer (b.1949 - d.1983) who wrote "Northwest Passage": 2 wds.
31. \_\_\_ the challenge (Ready to take things on)
32. Red carpet accessory
34. Actor Alastair
35. Add \_\_\_ of salt
36. Polite abbreviation
38. Tech exec.
39. Envoy
44. Property separators
45. Chin \_\_\_ Vancouverite in The New Royals
47. World Series org.
48. "The Golden Girls" city
50. Norwegian dramatist Henrik
52. Lamb mothers
53. Late-'80s flick, "Rent- \_\_\_"
55. Unwritten
56. Sets up
57. Vancouver: Sam \_\_\_ Building (Built in 1913, it's famous for its narrow structure)
58. Valley, in Wales
59. Masses, with Polloi

### Yesterday's Crossword



#### Online

See today's answers at [metronews.ca/answers](http://metronews.ca/answers)



### Conceptis Sudoku by Dave Green

#### How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

#### Yesterday's Sudoku



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